From: David Barrington
To: mdove@fec.gov
Subject: Fwd: matching funds for ActBlue
Date: 12/10/2007 05:14 PM

> Dear Ms. Dove,
>
> I have contributed several hundred dollars to the John Edwards for
> President campaign through ActBlue.
> I now understand that this contribution might be ineligible for
> federal matching funds, whereas if I had made
> exactly the same contribution through the Edwards website it would
> certainly have been eligible. This strikes
> me as absurd. It was clear to all concerned that ActBlue was
> acting purely as a free collection service for the
> Edwards campaign and other Democratic campaigns (though I also made
> small separate voluntary contributions
> to ActBlue at the same time). The funds were mine, from my credit
> card account, and this was also obvious.
>
> The intent of the matching fund law is obviously to reward the
> candidate for obtaining many small contributions
> such as mine, from many different citizens. ActBlue's intent is
> also to encourage small contributions and wide
> participation by making such contributions convenient while
> complying completely with the letter and spirit of
> campaign finance law. To penalize Sen. Edwards for using ActBlue
> makes no sense.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> David Mix Barrington
> 39 Pine Street
> Amherst, MA 01002
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